

FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

January 14, 2013, 1:00 PM

Frederick Senior Center

Members Present: Hermine Bernstein, RaeAnn Butler, Ernell Graham, Millard Haines, Alderman Carol Krimm, Louise Lynch, Mary Rice, Debra Savageau, Virginia Skelley, Steve Wilhide, Dan Yeeles. Excused members included Commissioner David Gray, Sue Ramsburg and Pat Rosensteel

Guests: Marty Mercer, Kathy Siggins, Barbara Briggs and Henrietta Lease from the Garrett County Commission on Aging, Dr. Sonja Sperlich, chair of the CCRC Board of Trustees, and Rick Weldon.

Staff Present: Kathy Schey and Carolyn True

Chairperson RaeAnn Butler called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM. Introductions of all attendees were made.

Louise Lynch noted a typo in the December 10, 2012 meeting minutes and requested that on Page 4 under "Friends of Meals on Wheels," the word *County* be changed to *Country*. Upon a motion by Dan Yeeles, seconded by Ginny Skelley, the minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

Ginny Skelley reminded COA members to become a member of the United Seniors of Maryland.

Nominating Committee

Millard Haines, chair of the Nominating Committee, stated that his committee has two interested applicants for membership on the Commission. The committee will interview these individuals and make a recommendation to the Commission.

Upon a motion by Millard Haines, seconded by Dan Yeeles, the Commission unanimously re-elected RaeAnn Butler to serve as Chairperson and Louise Lynch to serve as Vice-Chair of the Commission for 2013.

Upon a motion by Millard Haines, seconded by Dan Yeeles, the Commission unanimously voted to recommend reappointment to the Board of County Commissioners of Steve Wilhide to another term on the Commission on Aging.

Citizens/Montevue

RaeAnn Butler reviewed Commissioner Blaine Young's response to the letter the COA sent concerning Montevue and Citizens. Commissioner Young offered to attend a future meeting of the Commission to explain the Board of County Commissioners position and the process the County is undertaking regarding the Request for Proposals for management of the facility. The COA members agreed that it is important to hear from Commissioner Young but would also like all members of the Board of County Commissioners to attend the February 2013 meeting. RaeAnn agreed to extend the invitation. RaeAnn also noted that she and Louise had met with Dr. Joe Berman and Dr. Sonja Sperlich, members of the Citizens / Montevue Board of Trustees concerning the future of Citizens/Montevue. The Board of Trustees has extended an invitation

to COA members to attend their next Trustee meeting, scheduled for Monday, January 21, 2013 at 7PM at Citizens' facility.

Advocacy Training

The balance of the meeting was a discussion with Rick Weldon concerning advocacy and ways in which the COA can be an effective voice on older adult issues. Among the items Mr. Weldon suggested in order to be more effective was the need to do research on the topic in question to ensure a full understanding of the topic; personalize emails, phone calls to legislators so that the elected official knows how the topic will affect the writer/caller; keep emotion/threats out of the conversation, and to develop a relationship with the elected official.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 PM.

Respectfully,

Carolyn B. True

Director

On behalf of Sue Ramsburg, Recording Secretary